

Focus Area 15: Injury and Violence Prevention

Objective 15-3 targets a reduction in the firearms-related death rate to 3.6 per 100,000 population.

California's age-adjusted death rates for firearms-related deaths declined from 9.2 per 100,000 population in 2000 to 9.1 per 100,000 in 2004, but this was not a statistically significant trend (Figure 15-3, Table 15-3). California's firearms-related death rates are significantly higher than the HP2010 objective of 3.6, and this objective has not been achieved as of 2004.

Age-adjusted firearms-related death rates for males (16.3 per 100,000 population in 2004) are significantly higher than those for females (2.0 per 100,000 in 2004). This HP2010 objective is being achieved for females, but not for males as of 2004.

Data by race and ethnicity show that African Americans/Blacks had significantly higher age-adjusted firearms-related death rates than any other racial or ethnic population: 26.7 per 100,000 in 2004. The next highest reliable death rates were found for Whites (7.6 per 100,000 in 2004), and Hispanics/Latinos (7.6 per 100,000 in 2004). These rates are significantly higher than the HP2010 target of 3.6 per 100,000 population, and this objective is not being achieved for these racial and ethnic populations. Death rates for Asians (3.3 per 100,000 in 2004) and for the Multirace population (3.6 per 100,000 in 2004) were at or below the HP2010 target, and this objective is being achieved for these populations. Firearms-related death rates for American Indians/Alaska Natives (except for 2002) and for Pacific Islanders were unreliable due to the small number of events and are not reported.

For more information on firearms-related injuries in California, visit the Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control (EPIC) Web site at:

<http://www.applications.dhs.ca.gov/epicdata/default.htm>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 15-3, please visit:

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/15Injury.htm>

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od15.htm>

Figure 15-3
Firearm-Related Death Rates
California, 2000-2004

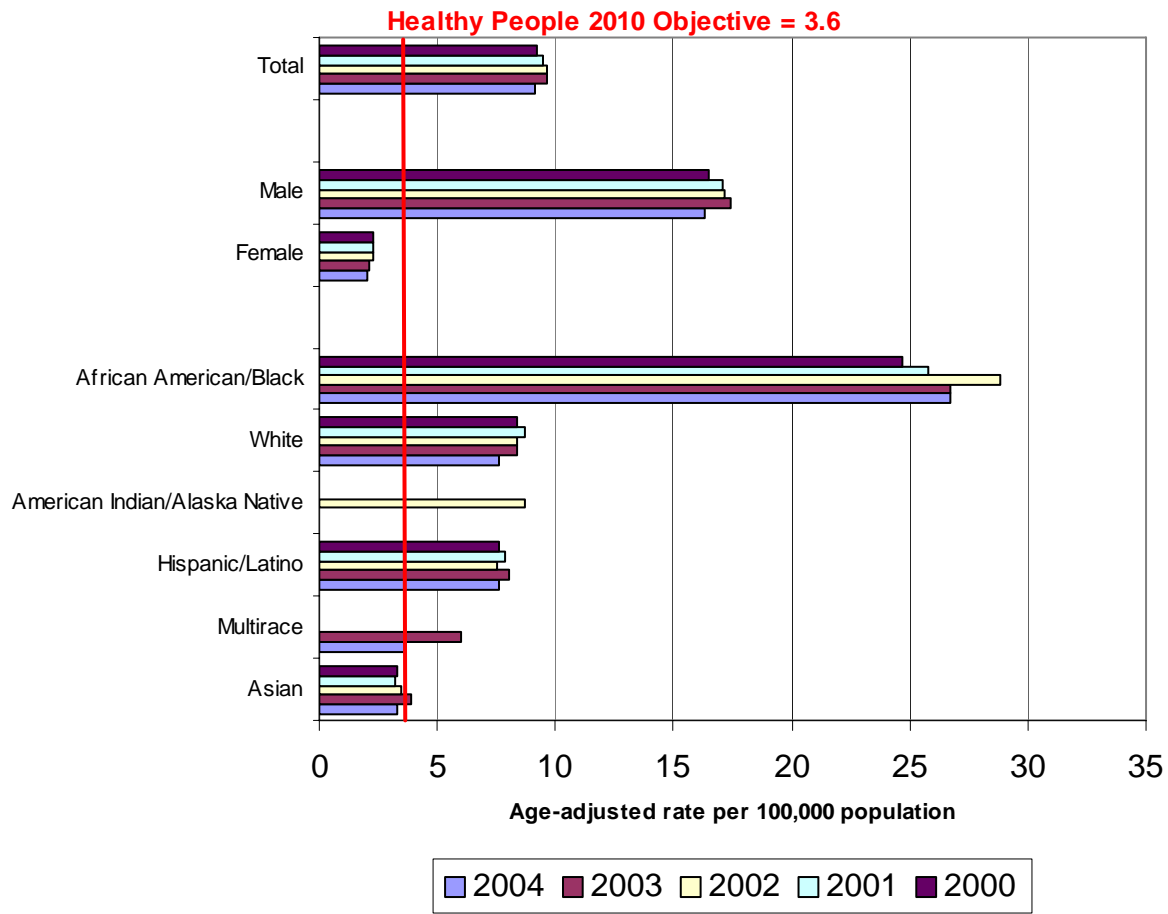


Table 15-3: Firearm-Related Deaths and Death Rates, California 2000-2004

Objective 15-3	2000		Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	2001		Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.
	N	Rate ¹			N	Rate ¹		
Healthy People 2010 Target		3.6				3.6		
Statewide Total	3,092	9.2	8.9	9.5	3,273	9.5	9.2	9.8
Race-Ethnicity								
African American/Black	571	24.7	22.7	26.7	615	25.8	23.7	27.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	9	DSU	-----	-----	13	DSU	-----	-----
Asian	131	3.3	2.7	3.9	132	3.2	2.7	3.8
Hispanic/Latino	887	7.6	7.0	8.1	967	7.9	7.3	8.4
Pacific Islander	16	DSU	-----	-----	8	DSU	-----	-----
White	1,467	8.4	7.9	8.8	1,523	8.7	8.2	9.1
Multirace	11	DSU	-----	-----	12	DSU	-----	-----
Gender								
Female	390	2.3	2.1	2.5	398	2.3	2.1	2.5
Male	2,702	16.5	15.9	17.2	2,875	17.1	16.4	17.7

Objective 15-3	2002		Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	2003		Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.
	N	Rate ¹			N	Rate ¹		
Healthy People 2010 Target		3.6				3.6		
Statewide Total	3,381	9.6	9.3	9.9	3,467	9.6	9.3	10.0
Race-Ethnicity								
African American/Black	702	28.8	26.7	31.0	674	26.7	24.7	28.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	22	8.7	5.0	12.3	11	DSU	-----	-----
Asian	141	3.5	2.9	4.0	158	3.9	3.3	4.5
Hispanic/Latino	1,001	7.5	7.0	8.0	1,081	8.0	7.5	8.5
Pacific Islander	13	DSU	-----	-----	12	DSU	-----	-----
White	1,485	8.4	7.9	8.8	1,492	8.4	7.9	8.8
Multirace	16	DSU	-----	-----	39	6.0	4.1	8.0
Gender								
Female	401	2.3	2.0	2.5	376	2.1	1.9	2.3
Male	2,980	17.2	16.6	17.8	3,091	17.4	16.8	18.0

Objective 15-3	2004		Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	5-year Trend	HP2010 Objective Being Achieved?
	N	Rate ¹				
Healthy People 2010 Target		3.6				
Statewide Total	3,313	9.1	8.8	9.4	ns	No
Race-Ethnicity						
African American/Black	686	26.7	24.7	28.7	ns	No
American Indian/Alaska Native	15	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
Asian	140	3.3	2.8	3.9	ns	Yes
Hispanic/Latino	1,077	7.6	7.1	8.1	ns	No
Pacific Islander	19	DSU	-----	-----	n/a	Unk
White	1,352	7.6	7.2	8.0	ns	No
Multirace	22	3.6	2.1	5.2	n/a	Yes
Gender						
Female	363	2.0	1.8	2.2	Sig. -	Yes
Male	2950	16.3	15.7	16.9	ns	No

SOURCES: CA Department of Health Services, Death Records, 2000-2004; CA Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity for California and Its Counties 2000-2050, May 2004.

NOTES: Firearm-related deaths defined by ICD-10 codes W32-W34, X72-X74, X93-X95, Y22-Y24, Y35.0.

¹ Rate per 100,000 population, age-adjusted using the 2000 US population standard.

Sig. - Statistically significant decrease in age-adjusted death rates from 2000 to 2004.

Sig. + Statistically significant increase in age-adjusted death rates from 2000 to 2004.

ns No significant trend as measured by linear regression analysis; n/a Not applicable (fewer than five data points)

DSU Data statistically unreliable (Relative Standard Error greater than 23 percent).